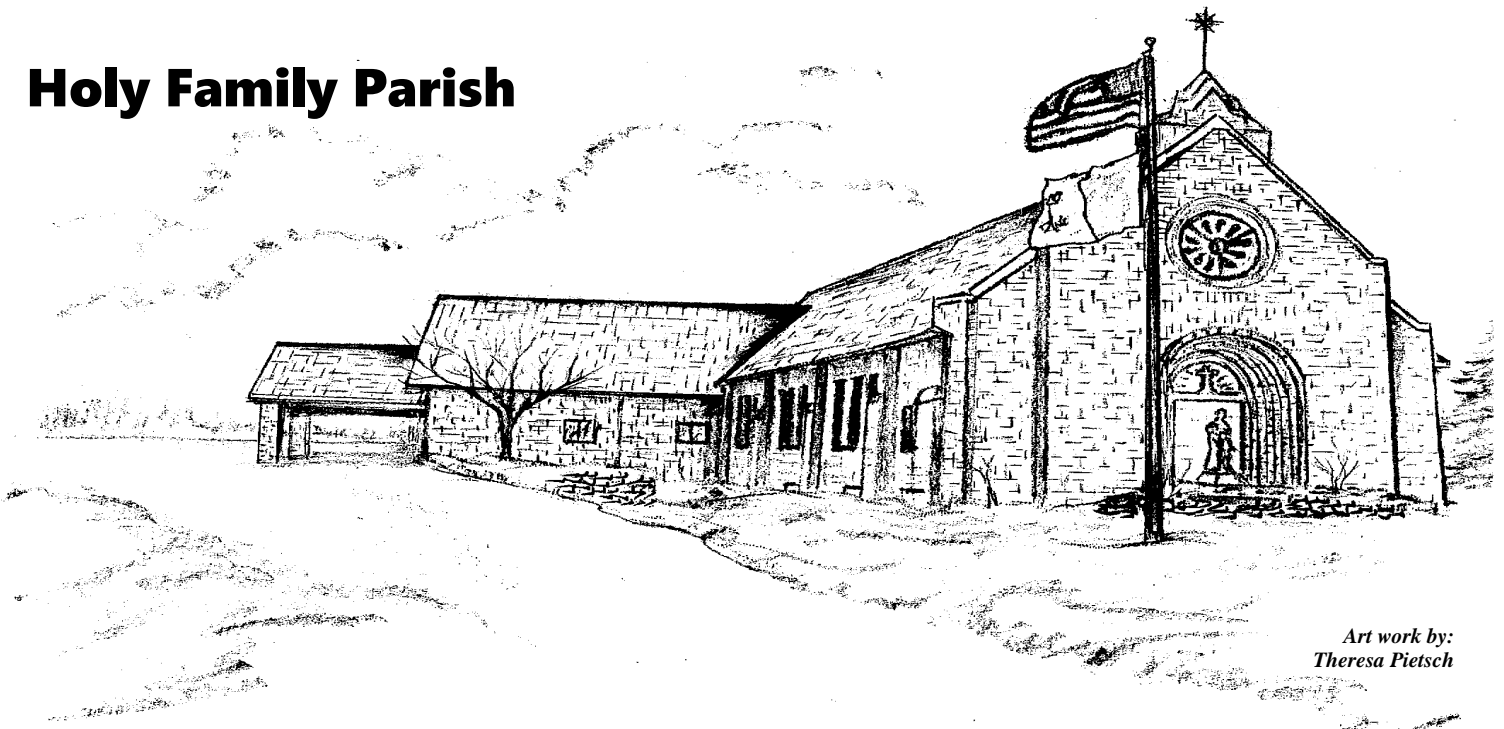


Holy Family Parish



Art work by:
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4011 Co. 416-20th Road, Gladstone, MI 49837

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – November 8, 2020

Pastor

(906) 786-1209 Ext. 3

Parish Secretary

Pam Leisner (906) 786-1209 Ext. 1 (H) 789-1710

Office hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 3 pm

Bulletin articles should be submitted

by Noon on Wednesdays

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Faith Formation Coordinator

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Maintenance

Mike Rabitoy 786-1209

Pastoral Council Members

Pam Marenger – President Diane Danhoff
Wanda Chenier – Secretary Harold Flagstadt
Kevin Dubord Tina Cryderman
Pam Marenger – Liturgy Committee
Bob Berbohm – Evangelization Committee

Finance Council Members

Gerald Miron Piper Desy Bill Smith
Mary Kay Nolde Frank Chenier

Sacrament of Marriage

Notice of six months is required

REQUIREMENT FOR SACRAMENTS

The basic requirement for the sacraments of First Communion, Confirmation and Marriage is that you be a practicing Catholic. One parent must be a practicing Catholic to present a child for Baptism

Sacrament of Baptism

Please notify the pastor during the pregnancy in order to schedule sacramental instruction, if necessary.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday 3:00 to 3:45 P.M.

7:15 am – 7:45 am and 5:15 pm – 5:45 pm
before daily Mass or by appointment

Sacrament of the Sick

The sacrament is for anyone you know who has any continuing or serious illness, or is having surgery and would like to celebrate this healing sacrament.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.....

Brevyn Willford, Lincoln Noel

Bob Gascon, Don Anderson

Attention parishioners. We will start with our prayer list back in the weekly bulletin. If you have a family member or friends who are sick and in need of prayers, please call the parish office at 786-1209. This will be the new corner for the names. The Mass intentions are now listed in the weekly calendar.

CATECHETICAL CORNER

The Church

The Early History: The Divine Revelation came to us through Jesus Christ is preserved in the Church founded by Jesus himself. Jesus said to Peter, “**And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it**” (Mt 16:18). Peter who was dreaming of a material kingdom which would be established by Jesus didn't have any clue what Jesus meant by these words. Peter and the fellow disciples had to wait up to Pentecost to understand the meaning of the great promise of Jesus. At the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the disciples at the Pentecost (see Acts 2), the Church was born or inaugurated and its growth started on that day. After 50 days of hideout the disciples, under the leadership of Peter, proclaimed the gospel to the nations standing in the open. During the initial years the Church was primarily a community of Jewish converts. It was to the Jews Jesus had focused his ministry and to them the gospel was preached first. So it is natural to the disciples to hang around Jerusalem and continue the preaching. But as the descent of the Holy Spirit took place on the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, there were thousands of people gathered in Jerusalem from outside of Palestine too. They all had the opportunity to listen to the preaching of Peter. But those people were mostly Jewish people lived in other countries. But every year they used to come for the Feast of Pentecost. *(In order to have the full picture of the early Church, especially from 33 AD to 70 AD, the only and the best source available for us is the full book of the Acts of the Apostles. It is the history of the growth of the Church under the leadership of Peter and later through the great Apostle Paul. We can read this book like an eventful novel and I request you, if you have not yet read the Acts of the Apostles, please read it together with this lesson).*

The Early Years: Of course, the Church started with the Jewish community; but that focus changed with the expansion of the Church beyond Jerusalem, which began about 36 AD. A deacon named Stephen was falsely accused of blasphemy, brought before the Sanhedrin (The Jewish Apex Court) and later was stoned to death. (See Acts 6: 8-7: 60). Meanwhile Peter and a few other Apostles were arrested and flogged a few times. Stephen's death was a major incident which shook the Christian Community. His death triggered a larger persecution against the entire Christian Community in Jerusalem and around. The key person for the assassination of Stephen was a Pharisee called Saul who instigated the stoning of Stephen. He was not satisfied enough to just restrict his persecution in Jerusalem alone and set out to Damascus to arrest the Christians there. But on his way he was struck down by a divine light and he heard the **voice of Jesus, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”** That was the point of Saul's conversion to Christianity (See Acts 9:1-19; 22:4-16 and 26:9-16). He took the name as Paul and was specially chosen by Jesus to be the Apostle of gentiles. Due to the assassination of Stephen, the persecution became severe and the Christians in Jerusalem fled and some of them reached outside of Jerusalem up to Rome, Alexandria and Antioch. But this fleeing of the Christians was a blessing in disguise. In other words, wherever they settled they started preaching the gospel. During this time the Christians came in constant contact with the gentiles and many started coming to the Church. Besides that the tireless work of Paul among the gentiles added more and more gentile converts to the Church. Eventually what we see is the gentile converts outnumbering the Jewish converts. And also we see frictions arising between the Jewish converts and the gentile converts over the issue like circumcision. The Jews were circumcised and they strictly followed the 10 Commandments. But the gentiles had neither of those practices. But the Jewish converts insisted that, if at all the gentiles to be accepted to Christianity, first they should undergo the Jewish ritual of circumcision. But as we read in the Acts of the Apostles, Paul was totally against imposing the rule of circumcision upon the gentiles. In order to resolve this dispute the first Church Council was convoked under the leadership of Peter and James in Jerusalem in 50 AD. (Acts 15:1-21). The decision in this Council made it very clear that the gentiles should be exempted from the rule of circumcision, but were bound to observe all other laws including avoiding to eat the meat of the strangled animals and practicing idolatry.

(Will be continued next week).

Thirty-Second week in Ordinary Time

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY

Mon.	Nov. 9 th	<i>The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For all of your Special Intentions
Tues.	Nov. 10 th	<i>Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church</i> 4:30 P.M. - St. Vincent DePaul Society meets 6:00 P.M. - Mass –Eva Paquin
Wed.	Nov. 11 th	<i>Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Larry Beauchamp
Thurs.	Nov. 12 th	<i>Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – For All Souls in Purgatory
Fri.	Nov. 13 th	<i>Saint Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Elaine Gareau ----- Parish office closed
Sat.	Nov. 14 th	3:00 P.M. - Confessions heard until 3:45 PM 4:00 P.M. - Mass – Henry, Patrick & Ron Hughes
Sun.	Nov. 15 th	<i>Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 8:00 A.M. - Mass – Lawrence Viau 10:00 AM - Mass –Rita McNair

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

72 envelopes were returned Sunday, November 1st

Adults.....	\$3,475.00
Loose.....	90.00
General Maintenance.....	172.00
Fuel.....	242.00
All Souls.....	120.00
Pasty Donations.....	60.00
Roof Fund.....	100.00
Total.....	\$4,259.00

Budgeted weekly Income & Expense...	\$3,786.83
Overage.....	\$ 472.17

St. Vincent DePaul Society..... 70.00

Many thanks to the parishioners who have donated \$7,975.00 towards the new P.A. system so far.

U.P. Catholic Services Appeal Update

Parish Goal.....	\$40,139.00
Pledged to date.....	\$29,595.00
Still needed.....	\$10,544.00

Thank you to the 124 parishioners who have sent in their pledges, with 83 cards outstanding. We can do this!!



Our prayers and condolences to the family and friends of Lawrence Chouinard, Jr.

May his soul and all the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace.

SPIRIT LIFTERS

Nov. 8th - We lose the peace of years when we hunt after the rapture of moments.

Nov. 9th - Faults are thick when love is thin.

Nov. 10th - Christianity is the highest perfection of humanity.

Nov. 11th - Great occasions for serving God come seldom, but little ones surround us daily.

Nov. 12th - My grandfather once told me that there are two kinds of people; Those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there was much less competition there.

Nov. 13th - Ideas are funny little things, They won't work unless you do.

Nov. 14th - And when in the mansions above, The saved all around me appear, I'd like to hear somebody say; It was you who invited me here.

St. Vincent DePaul Society Christmas Baskets

SVdP will be doing Christmas baskets again this year. There are tags with requested items on the Giving Tree in the vestibule. This year, due to COVID19 concerns, envelopes will be placed on the tree also for those who would like to give, but are reluctant to be out shopping. Holy Family is always generous in taking care of our neighbors in need. We are grateful for your generosity. SVdP will be distributing Christmas Baskets on December 10th and 11th from the Ruth Butler bldg..



Would you like a yearly subscription to the WORD AMONG US? The Word Among us is a complete Catholic Mass and Daily Meditation book comes monthly. For \$20 a year you can get one through Holy Family which is about \$15 cheaper than a regular subscription. You can contact the parish office to be put on the list.

The new 2021 books will be mailed here to the parish sometime in the month of December.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday

Ez 47:1-2,8-9,12
1 Cor 3:9c-11,16-17
Jn 2:13-22

Tuesday

Ti 2:1-8,11-14
Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday

Ti 3:1-7
Lk 17:11-19

Thursday

Phlm 7-20
Lk 17:20-25

Friday

2 Jn 4-9
Lk 17:26-37

Saturday

3 Jn 5-8
Lk 18:1-8

Sunday

Prv 31:10-13,19-20,30-31
1 Thes 5:1-6
Mt 25:14-30

Life of Saints

Nov. 9th - DEDICATION OF ST. JOHN LATERAN - - In the Catholic tradition special attention is due to the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome. The Holy Father's own church, it is regarded as the "Head and Mother" of all churches in the world. Today's Mass develops the theme of a church building dedicated to God's service.

Nov. 10th - ST. LEO THE GREAT, pope and doctor - - Elected Pope in 440 and deceased in 461, Leo I shepherded the Church in most difficult times. He had to fight barbarians from without and heretics from within. Leo had to confront and turn back Attila the Hun (452), witness helplessly the sack of Rome by the Vandals (455), and at all times care for the souls and bodies of his people. Fittingly he has been called Pope Leo the Great.



32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; Cycle – A: Nov. 8th 2020
Wisdom 6:12-16; 1Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

Once again, this Sunday Jesus presents another kingdom parable which warns us against our unpreparedness for our eternal journey. On the second of November we specially remembered our departed ones. Again November marks the end of two great seasons, the summer and the beautiful fall. When we look at the nature, we feel already some sort of dead atmosphere. Again November marks the end of the current liturgical cycle A too. So probably, the Church feels it is appropriate to give us a little thought on the end of our journey on earth. Of course, every end gives way to a beginning; the end of the fall season marks the beginning of winter; the end of the current liturgical year gives way to the beginning of another; **the end of our life on earth marks the beginning of our life in another world, for good or bad.** So there is no need of any panic or concern, provided we are prepared.

In order to make this message clear for his disciples, Jesus tells the parable of the 10 virgins who went out to meet the bridegroom. Of course, here the point of interest is the five foolish ones who were not prepared for any unexpected twist in the situation. This parable may not make any sense in the modern age. But it was well understood by the audience of Jesus as the wedding ceremony took place in the way Jesus speaks in this parable.

This parable can raise some questions in our minds such as, *‘why didn’t the five wise ones share some of their oil?’* *Why didn’t the five foolish ones get another chance, instead of being kicked out with first mistake?’* But the parable should be understood for its message not literally. The oil Jesus speaks here represents our personal relationship with God which must be personally developed and cannot be shared with someone or cannot be borrowed. Once someone wrote an article entitled: **‘God has no grandchildren.’** We either have a relationship with God as son or daughter or we do not. We cannot claim to have relationship with God because our parents are good Catholics and Church goers. Sometimes, young couples approach me with the request to baptize their babies with the introduction that their parents belong to this Parish. The oil also stands for our Christian character. A person cannot take someone else’s character and makes it his/her own. He/she has to acquire it for himself/herself. So this parable gives us a strong message that there are certain things which we cannot share or obtain at the last minute. In other words a last minute preparation to meet the Lord, very often will

never work out. When the Queen of England, Mary of Orange, was dying, her chaplain sought to tell her about salvation. Her answer was: **“I have not left this matter to this hour.”** One day while Francis Assisi was working in his small garden, one of his fellow religious asked him, ‘Francis, what will you do, if you are told that it is your last day of life?’ *Francis answered without any hesitation: ‘I will complete my work first?’* Only a person who is well prepared for his end of journey can answer with such ease.

Very often with all our stress and worries to keep our life comfortable in this world, we forget about our life beyond this world. Coming to the matter of our practice of faith and developing our relationship with God, **we think about ‘a tomorrow.’** Tomorrow I will do it. But many forget the fact that the expectation to have ‘a tomorrow’ is a wild dream, which may not be materialized. The devil always tell people, ‘In religious matters, don’t worry, you can do them tomorrow.’ Life is very short and only today is ours. In Ps. 90 the Psalmist describes the brevity of human life: In verses 5&6 we read: **“They disappear like sleep at dawn; they are like grass that dies. It sprouts green in the morning; by evening it is dry and withered.”** Then v.10 says, **“Seventy is the sum of our years, or eighty, if we are strong; Most of them are sorrow and toil; they pass quickly, we are all but gone.”** So it is an undisputed truth that one day we all have to leave this world timely or untimely; willingly or unwillingly, prepared or unprepared. That is why in Luke’s gospel 12:40 Jesus asks us: **“You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”**